

Amendments to the Claims:

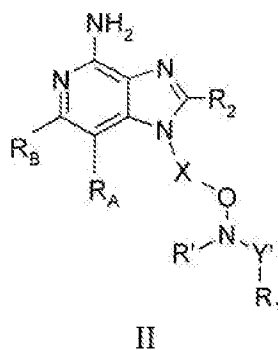
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1-17 (canceled)

18. (original) A compound of the formula (II);



wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of -CH(R_{9a})-alkylene- and -CH(R_{9a})-alkenylene-, wherein the alkylene and alkenylene are optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of:

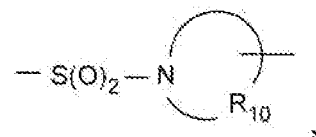
a bond,

-C(O)-,

-C(S)-,

-S(O)₂-,

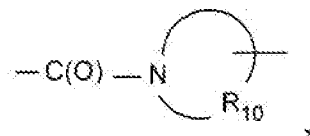
-S(O)₂-N(R₈)-,



-C(O)-O-,

-C(O)-N(R₈)-,

-C(S)-N(R₈)-,



R_1 and R' are independently selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

alkenyl,

aryl,

arylalkylenyl,

heteroaryl,

heteroarylalkylenyl,

heterocyclyl,

heterocyclalkylenyl, and

alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heterocyclyl, or heterocyclalkylenyl, substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

hydroxyl,

alkyl,

haloalkyl,

hydroxyalkyl,

alkoxy,

dialkylamino,

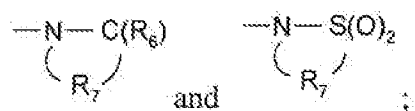
$-\text{S}(\text{O})_{0.2}-\text{alkyl}$,

$-\text{S}(\text{O})_{0.2}-\text{aryl}$,

$-\text{NH}-\text{S}(\text{O})_2-\text{alkyl}$,

-NH-S(O)₂-aryl,
 haloalkoxy,
 halogen,
 nitrile,
 nitro,
 aryl,
 heteroaryl,
 heterocyclyl,
 aryloxy,
 arylalkyleneoxy,
 -C(O)-O-alkyl,
 -C(O)-N(R₈)₂,
 -N(R₈)-C(O)-alkyl,
 -O-C(O)-alkyl, and
 -C(O)-alkyl;

or R₁ and R' together with the nitrogen atom and Y' to which they are bonded can join to form a ring selected from the group consisting of:



R_A and R_B are each independently selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,
 halogen,
 alkyl,
 alkenyl,
 alkoxy,
 alkylthio, and
 -N(R₉)₂;

or when taken together, R_A and R_B form a fused aryl ring or heteroaryl ring

containing one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N and S, wherein the aryl or heteroaryl ring is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more R groups, or substituted by one R₃ group, or substituted by one R₃ group and one R group;

or when taken together, R_A and R_B form a fused 5 to 7 membered saturated ring, optionally containing one heteroatom selected from the group consisting of N and S, and unsubstituted or substituted by one or more R groups;

R is selected from the group consisting of:

halogen,
hydroxyl,
alkyl,
alkenyl,
haloalkyl,
alkoxy,
alkylthio, and
-N(R₉)₂;

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

-R₄,
-X'-R₄,
-X'-Y-R₄, and
-X'-R₅;

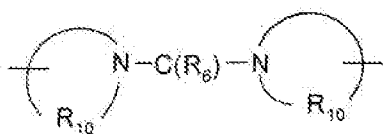
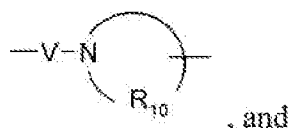
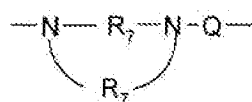
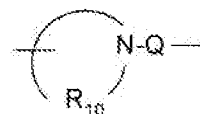
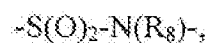
R₃ is selected from the group consisting of:

-Z-R₄,
-Z-X'-R₄,
-Z-X'-Y-R₄, and
-Z-X'-R₅;

each X' is independently selected from the group consisting of alkylene, alkenylene, alkynylene, arylene, heteroarylene, and heterocyclylene, wherein the alkylene, alkenylene, and alkynylene groups can be optionally interrupted or terminated with arylene, heteroarylene, or heterocyclylene, and optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

each Y is independently selected from the group consisting of:

-S(O)₀₋₂,

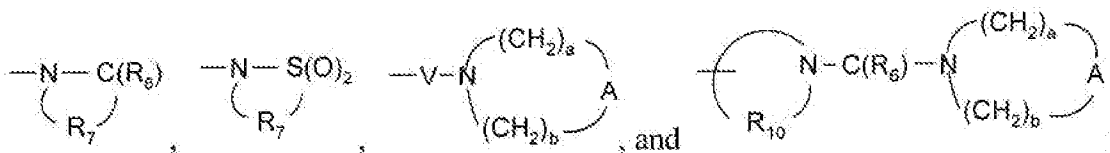


Z is a bond or -O-;

each R_i is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl, wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl groups can be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyleneoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkyleneoxy, heterocyclyl,

amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, (dialkylamino)alkyleneoxy, and in the case of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and heterocyclyl, oxo;

each R_5 is independently selected from the group consisting of:



each R_6 is independently selected from the group consisting of =O and =S;

each R_7 is independently C_{2-7} alkylene;

each R_8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,

C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy- C_{1-10} alkylenyl, and aryl- C_{1-10} alkylenyl;

each R_9 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R_{9a} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl which is optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

each R_{10} is independently C_{3-8} alkylene;

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of -O-, -C(O)-, -CH₂-, -S(O)₀₋₂-, and -N(R₄)-

each Q is independently selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(R₆)-, -C(R₆)-C(R₆)-, -S(O)₂-, -C(R₆)-N(R₈)-W-, -S(O)₂-N(R₈)-, -C(R₆)-O-, and -C(R₆)-N(OR₉)-

each W is independently selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(O)-, and -S(O)₂-;

each V is independently selected from the group consisting of -C(R₆)-, -O-C(R₆)-, -N(R₈)-C(R₆)-, and -S(O)₂-; and

a and b are independently integers from 1 to 6 with the proviso that $a + b \leq 7$; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

19 (canceled)

20. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim 189 wherein X is -C₃₋₅ alkylene- or -CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂-.

21. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 20~~ wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₄ alkyl.

22 (canceled)

23. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 21~~ wherein Y' is -C(O)-, -S(O)₂-, or -C(O)-N(R₈)-

24 (canceled)

25. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim ~~18~~24 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl and pyridyl.

26. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 21 or 23~~ wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, and heteroaryl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -O-alkyl, -O-aryl, -S-alkyl, -S-aryl, halogen, -O-C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-O-alkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkyl, and aryl.

27-28 (canceled)

29. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim ~~21~~8 wherein R₂ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and alkoxyalkylenyl.

30. (original) The compound or salt of claim 29 wherein R₂ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, ethoxymethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, and methoxymethyl.

31. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 27~~ wherein R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

alkyl,
 alkenyl,
 aryl,
 heteroaryl,
 heterocyclyl,
 alkylene-Y"-alkyl,
 alkylene-Y"-alkenyl,
 alkylene-Y"-aryl, and

alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

hydroxyl,
 halogen,
 $-N(R_{8a})_2$,
 $-C(O)-C_{1-10}$ alkyl,
 $-C(O)-O-C_{1-10}$ alkyl,
 $-N_3$,
 aryl,
 heteroaryl,
 heterocyclyl,
 $-C(O)-aryl$, and
 $-C(O)-heteroaryl$;

wherein:

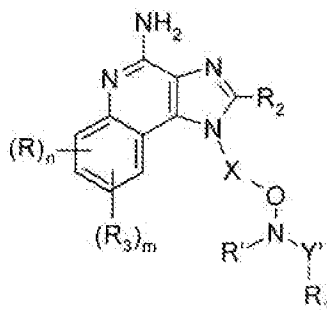
Y" is $-O-$ or $-S(O)_{0.2}-$; and

each R_{8a} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, and C_{2-10} alkenyl.

32. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 31~~ wherein R_A and R_B form a fused aryl ring or heteroaryl ring containing one N, wherein the aryl ring or heteroaryl ring is unsubstituted.

33 (canceled)

34. (original) A compound of the formula (III):



III

wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of -CH(R_{9a})-alkylene- and -CH(R_{9a})-alkenylene-, wherein the alkylene and alkenylene are optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of:

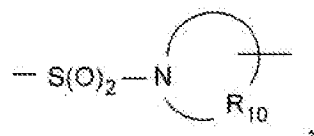
a bond,

-C(O)-,

-C(S)-,

-S(O)₂-,

-S(O)₂-N(R₈)-,



-C(O)-O-,

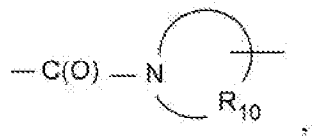
-C(O)-N(R₈)-,

-C(S)-N(R₈)-,

-C(O)-N(R₈)-S(O)₂-,

-C(O)-N(R₈)-C(O)-,

-C(S)-N(R₈)-C(O)-,



-C(O)-C(O)-,
-C(O)-C(O)-O-, and
-C(=NH)-N(R₈)-;

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of:

halogen,
hydroxyl,
alkyl,
alkenyl,
haloalkyl,
alkoxy,
alkylthio, and
-N(R₉)₂;

R₁ and R' are independently selected from the group consisting of:

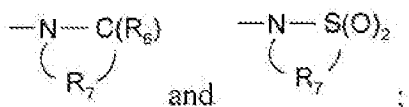
hydrogen,
alkyl,
alkenyl,
aryl,
arylalkylenyl,
heteroaryl,
heteroarylalkylenyl,
heterocyclyl,
heterocyclalkylenyl, and

alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heterocyclyl, or
heterocyclalkylenyl, substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting
of:

hydroxyl,
alkyl,
haloalkyl,
hydroxyalkyl,
alkoxy,
dialkylamino,

- S(O)₀₋₂-alkyl,
- S(O)₀₋₂-aryl,
- NH-S(O)₂-alkyl,
- NH-S(O)₂-aryl,
- haloalkoxy,
- halogen,
- nitrile,
- nitro,
- aryl,
- heteroaryl,
- heterocyclyl,
- aryloxy,
- arylalkyleneoxy,
- C(O)-O-alkyl,
- C(O)-N(R₈)₂,
- N(R₈)-C(O)-alkyl,
- O-C(O)-alkyl, and
- C(O)-alkyl;

or R₁ and R' together with the nitrogen atom and Y' to which they are bonded can join to form a ring selected from the group consisting of:



R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

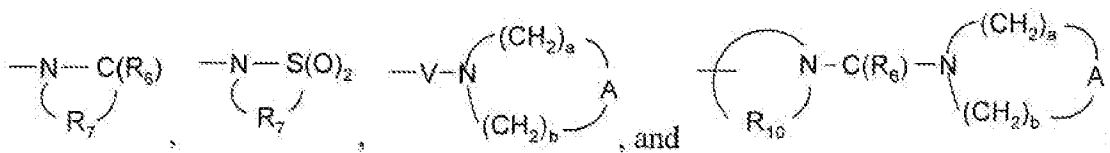
- R₄;
- X'-R₄;
- X'-Y-R₄; and
- X'-R₅;

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of:

$$\begin{aligned} & -Z-R_4, \\ & -Z-X'-R_4. \end{aligned}$$

each R_4 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl, wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl groups can be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyleneoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkyleneoxy, heterocyclyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, (dialkylamino)alkyleneoxy, and in the case of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and heterocyclyl, oxo;

each R_5 is independently selected from the group consisting of:



each R_6 is independently selected from the group consisting of =O and =S;

each R_7 is independently C_{2-7} alkylene;

each R_8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{2-10} alkenyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy- C_{1-10} alkylenyl, and aryl- C_{1-10} alkylenyl;

each R_9 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R_{9a} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl which is optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

each R_{10} is independently C_{3-8} alkylene;

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of -O-, -C(O)-, -CH₂-, -S(O)₀₋₂-, and -N(R₄)-;

each Q is independently selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(R₆)-, -C(R₆)-C(R₆)-, -S(O)₂-, -C(R₆)-N(R₈)-W-, -S(O)₂-N(R₈)-, -C(R₆)-O-, and -C(R₆)-N(OR₉)-;

each W is independently selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(O)-, and -S(O)₂-;

each V is independently selected from the group consisting of -C(R₆)-, -O-C(R₆)-, -N(R₈)-C(R₆)-, and -S(O)₂-;

a and b are independently integers from 1 to 6 with the proviso that $a + b \leq 7$;

n is an integer from 0 to 4; and

m is 0 or 1, with the proviso that when m is 1, n is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35 (canceled)

36. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim 34 wherein X is -C₃₋₅ alkylene- or -CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂-.

37. (currently amended) The compound or salt of any one of claims 34 through 36 wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₄ alkyl.

38-39 (canceled)

40. (currently amended) The compound or salt of any one of claims 34 through 37 wherein Y' is -C(O)-, -S(O)₂-, or -C(O)-N(R₈)-.

41 (canceled)

42. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim 34 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₆ alkyl and pyridyl.

43. (currently amended) The compound or salt of any one of claims 34 through 37 or 40 wherein R₁ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, and heteroaryl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -O-alkyl, -O-aryl, -S-alkyl, -S-aryl, halogen, -O-C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-O-alkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkyl, and aryl.

44-45 (canceled)

46. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim ~~34~~ wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and alkoxyalkylenyl.

47. (original) The compound or salt of claim 46 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, ethoxymethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, and methoxymethyl.

48. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 34 through 44~~ wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

alkenyl,

aryl,

heteroaryl,

heterocyclyl,

alkylene- Y'' -alkyl,

alkylene- Y'' -alkenyl,

alkylene- Y'' -aryl, and

alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

hydroxyl,

halogen,

$-N(R_{8a})_2$,

$-C(O)-C_{1-10}$ alkyl,

$-C(O)-O-C_{1-10}$ alkyl,

$-N_3$,

aryl,

heteroaryl,

heterocyclyl,

$-C(O)$ -aryl, and

$-C(O)$ -heteroaryl;

wherein:

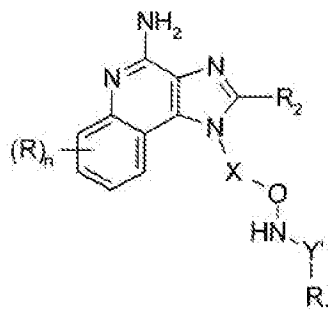
Y" is -O- or -S(O)₀₋₂-; and

each R_{8a} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, and C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl.

49. (currently amended) The compound or salt of any one of claims 34 through 48 wherein m and n are each 0.

50-62 (canceled)

63. (original) A compound of the formula (V):



V

wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of -CH(R_{9a})-alkylene- and -CH(R_{9a})-alkenylene-;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of:

- a bond,
- C(O)-,
- C(S)-,
- S(O)₂-,
- S(O)₂-N(R_{8a})-,
- C(O)-O-,
- C(O)-N(R_{8a})-,

$-\text{C}(\text{S})-\text{N}(\text{R}_{8a})-$,
 $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}_{8a})-\text{S}(\text{O})_2-$,
 $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{N}(\text{R}_{8a})-\text{C}(\text{O})-$,
 $-\text{C}(\text{S})-\text{N}(\text{R}_{8a})-\text{C}(\text{O})-$, and
 $-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$;

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,
 alkyl,
 alkenyl,
 aryl,
 alkylene-aryl,
 alkylene-heteroaryl,
 alkylene-heterocyclyl,
 heteroaryl,
 heterocyclyl, and
 alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heterocyclylalkylenyl,

heteroaryl or heterocyclyl, substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

hydroxyl,
 alkyl,
 haloalkyl,
 hydroxyalkyl,
 $-\text{O}-\text{alkyl}$,
 $-\text{S}(\text{O})_{0.2}-\text{alkyl}$,
 $-\text{S}(\text{O})_{0.2}-\text{aryl}$,
 $-\text{O}-\text{haloalkyl}$,
 halogen,
 nitrile,
 nitro,
 aryl,
 heteroaryl,

heterocyclyl,
-O-aryl,
-O-alkylene-aryl,
-C(O)-O-alkyl,
-C(O)-N(R_{8a})₂,
-N(R_{8a})-C(O)-alkyl,
-O-C(O)-alkyl, and
-C(O)-alkyl;

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, hydroxyl, and trifluoromethyl;

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
alkenyl,
aryl,
heteroaryl,
heterocyclyl,
alkylene-Y"-alkyl,
alkylene-Y"-alkenyl,
alkylene-Y"-aryl, and

alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

hydroxyl,
halogen,
-N(R_{8a})₂,
-C(O)-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl,
-C(O)-O-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl,
-N₃,
aryl,
heteroaryl,
heterocyclyl,

-C(O)-aryl, and
-C(O)-heteroaryl;

Y" is -O- or -S(O)₀₋₂;

each R_{8a} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, and C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl;

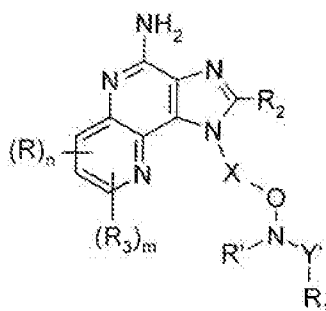
R_{9a} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl which may be optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups; and

n is an integer from 0 to 4;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

64-94 (canceled)

95. (original) A compound of the formula (VIII):



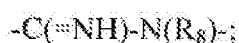
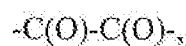
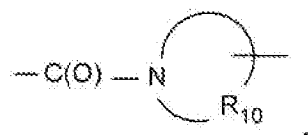
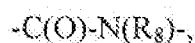
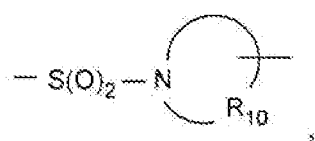
VIII

wherein:

X is selected from the group consisting of -CH(R_{9a})-alkylene- and -CH(R_{9a})-alkenylene-, wherein the alkylene and alkenylene are optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of:

a bond,
-C(O)-,
-C(S)-,
-S(O)₂-,
-S(O)₂-N(R₈)-,



each R is independently selected from the group consisting of:

halogen,

hydroxyl,

alkyl,

alkenyl,

haloalkyl,

alkoxy,

alkylthio, and

$-\text{N(R}_9)_2$;

R_1 and R' are independently selected from the group consisting of:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

alkenyl,

aryl,

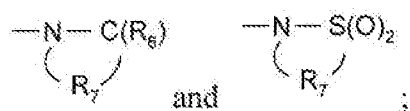
arylalkylenyl,

heteroaryl,

heteroarylalkylenyl,
heterocyclyl,
heterocyclylalkylenyl, and
alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heterocyclyl, or
heterocyclylalkylenyl, substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting
of:

hydroxyl,
alkyl,
haloalkyl,
hydroxyalkyl,
alkoxy,
dialkylamino,
-S(O)₀₋₂-alkyl,
-S(O)₀₋₂-aryl,
-NH-S(O)₂-alkyl,
-NH-S(O)₂-aryl,
haloalkoxy,
halogen,
nitrile,
nitro,
aryl,
heteroaryl,
heterocyclyl,
aryloxy,
arylalkyleneoxy,
-C(O)-O-alkyl,
-C(O)-N(R₈)₂,
-N(R₈)-C(O)-alkyl,
-O-C(O)-alkyl, and
-C(O)-alkyl;

or R₁ and R' together with the nitrogen atom and Y' to which they are bonded can join to form a ring selected from the group consisting of:



R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

- R_d
$$-X'-R_{11}$$
 $-X^1-Y-R_4$, and

-X-Rs:

R₁ is selected from the group consisting of:

Z.R.

$$-Z-X^1-R_n$$

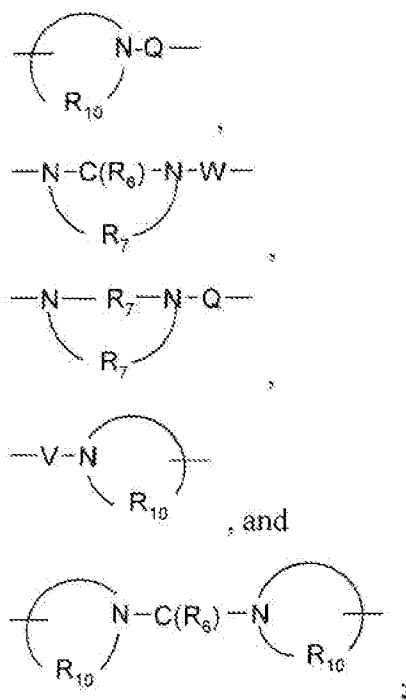
-Z-X'-Y-R₄, and

$$-Z-X'-R_{5+}$$

each X' is independently selected from the group consisting of alkylene, alkenylene, alkynylene, arylene, heteroarylene, and heterocyclylene, wherein the alkylene, alkenylene, and alkynylene groups can be optionally interrupted or terminated with arylene, heteroarylene, or heterocyclylene, and optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

each Y is independently selected from the group consisting of:

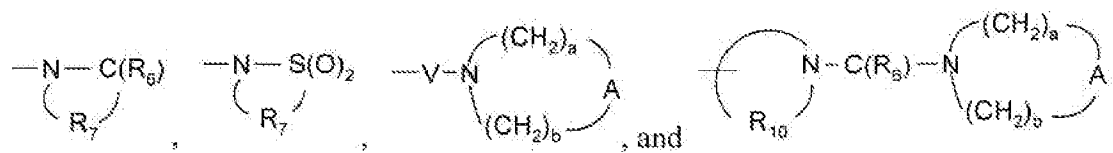
$$-S(O)_{0-2},$$
$$-S(O)_2-N(R_g)-,$$
$$-\text{C}(\text{R}_6)-$$
$$-\text{C}(\text{R}_6)-\text{O}-,$$
$$-O-C(R_6)-,$$
$$-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$$
$$-N(R_s)-Q-$$
$$-C(R_6)-N(R_8)-$$
$$-O-C(R_6)-N(R_8)-$$
$$\text{C(R}_6\text{)}-\text{N(OR}_9\text{)}_2$$



Z is a bond or -O-;

each R_4 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl, wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, arylalkylenyl, aryloxyalkylenyl, alkylarylenyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkylenyl, heteroaryloxyalkylenyl, alkylheteroarylenyl, and heterocyclyl groups can be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyalkyl, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, halogen, nitro, hydroxyl, mercapto, cyano, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyleneoxy, heteroaryl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkyleneoxy, heterocyclyl, amino, alkylamino, dialkylamino, (dialkylamino)alkyleneoxy, and in the case of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, and heterocyclyl, oxo;

each R_5 is independently selected from the group consisting of:



each R_6 is independently selected from the group consisting of =O and =S;

each R_7 is independently C_{2-7} alkylene;

each R_8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,

C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl, C₁₋₁₀ alkoxy-C₁₋₁₀ alkylenyl, and aryl-C₁₋₁₀ alkylenyl;

each R₉ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R_{9a} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl which is optionally interrupted by one or more -O- groups;

each R₁₀ is independently C₃₋₈ alkylene;

each A is independently selected from the group consisting of -O-, -C(O)-, -CH₂-, -S(O)₀₋₂-, and -N(R₄)-;

each Q is independently selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(R₆)-, -C(R₆)-C(R₆)-, -S(O)₂-, -C(R₆)-N(R₈)-W-, -S(O)₂-N(R₈)-, -C(R₆)-O-, and -C(R₆)-N(OR₉)-;

each W is independently selected from the group consisting of a bond, -C(O)-, and -S(O)₂-;

each V is independently selected from the group consisting of -C(R₆)-, -O-C(R₆)-, -N(R₈)-C(R₆)-, and -S(O)₂-;

a and b are independently integers from 1 to 6 with the proviso that a + b is ≤ 7;

n is an integer from 0 to 3; and

m is 0 or 1, with the proviso that when m is 1, n is 0 or 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

96 (canceled)

97. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim 95~~6~~ wherein X is -C₃₋₅ alkylene- or -CH₂CH₂OCH₂CH₂-.

98. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 95 through 97~~ wherein R' is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₄ alkyl.

99-100 (canceled)

101. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 95 through 98~~ wherein Y' is -C(O)-, -S(O)₂-, or -C(O)-N(R₈)-.

102 (canceled)

103. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim ~~95~~102 wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl and pyridyl.

104. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 95 through 98 and 101~~ wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, and heteroaryl, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -O-alkyl, -O-aryl, -S-alkyl, -S-aryl, halogen, -O-C(O)-alkyl, -C(O)-O-alkyl, haloalkoxy, haloalkyl, and aryl.

105-106 (canceled)

107. (currently amended) The compound or salt of claim ~~95~~106 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, and alkoxyalkenyl.

108. (original) The compound or salt of claim 107 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, ethoxymethyl, 2-methoxyethyl, and methoxymethyl.

109. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 95 through 105~~ wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen,
- alkyl,
- alkenyl,
- aryl,
- heteroaryl,
- heterocyclyl,
- alkylene- Y'' -alkyl,
- alkylene- Y'' -alkenyl,
- alkylene- Y'' -aryl, and

alkyl or alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

hydroxyl,
halogen,
 $-N(R_{8a})_2$,
 $-C(O)-C_{1-10}$ alkyl,
 $-C(O)-O-C_{1-10}$ alkyl,
 $-N_3$,
aryl,
heteroaryl,
heterocyclyl,
 $-C(O)$ -aryl, and
 $-C(O)$ -heteroaryl;

wherein:

Y" is $-O-$ or $-S(O)_{0-2}-$; and

each R_{8a} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, and C_{2-10} alkenyl.

110 (canceled)

111. (currently amended) The compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 95 through 110~~ wherein m and n are each 0.

112-133 (canceled)

134. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 128~~ in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

135. (currently amended) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 128~~ to the animal.

136. (currently amended) A method of treating a viral disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 128~~ to the animal.

137. (currently amended) A method of treating a neoplastic disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of ~~any one of claims 18 through 128~~ to the animal.

138. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 34 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

139. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 95 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

140. (new) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 34 to the animal.

141. (new) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 95 to the animal.

142. (new) A method of treating a viral disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 34 to the animal.

143. (new) A method of treating a viral disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 95 to the animal.

144. (new) A method of treating a neoplastic disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 34 to the animal.

145. (new) A method of treating a neoplastic disease in an animal in need thereof comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound or salt of claim 95 to the animal.